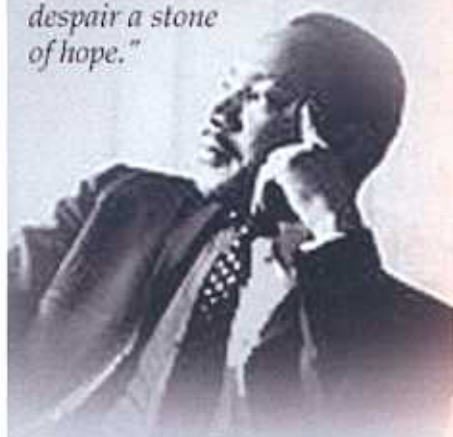


# Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial

January/February 2007

Washington, D.C.

*"With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope."*



*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*To commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a collaborative funding, design, and construction process is in process to create a memorial to honor his national and international contributions to world peace through non-violent social change. A monument will be erected to honor this great humanitarian because "it will be a place for visitors from all over the world to be energized by its extraordinary power; the power that illuminated the faith of our founders and now impels us toward our destiny as a nation; the power flowing from the uniquely American spirit of brotherly love, freedom, justice, and the priceless blessing they endure...peace."*

Dr. King championed a movement that was based on freedom, equality of opportunity and justice. His memorable messages consistently resounded of hope, dignity, sensitivity, and mutual respect of all people. Dr. King believed that our strength lies in the diversity of our talent. A dynamic team of individuals from various walks of life that embrace Dr. King's vision of equality have collaborated to bring this dream to fruition.

## *A Tribute to History* The Timeline

- **November 2, 1983** - The Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday bill, a measure proposed in every legislative session from 1968 by Rep. John Conyers is signed by President Ronald Reagan, declaring King's birthday a national holiday. However, the first legal holiday nationwide does not occur until January 20, 1986.
- **January 1984** - George Sealey convened Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity to propose building a national memorial to Dr. King.
- **November 12, 1996** - President Clinton signs Congressional legislation proposing the establishment of a Memorial in the District of Columbia to honor Dr. King.
- **January 10, 1998** - National Capital Memorial Commission votes to recommend Area 1.
- **February 27, 1998** - Washington Post article is published: "King Memorial Takes a Step" to introduce Resolution 41
- **March 4, 1998** - Joint Resolution 113 introduced before the House of Representatives seeking Area 1 authorization.
- **March 7, 1998** - Coretta Scott King agrees to serve as chairperson of the project's Honorary Committee
- **March 24, 1998** - John Carter testifies before Senate subcommittee, which oversees memorials in Washington, DC. Excerpt: "We now have an opportunity to break the trend of memorials to war and erect a monument which delivers a message of lifelong peace in our land. A memorial that embodies not just the image of Dr. King, but the image of America, which is often called the melting pot of the world."
- **May 28, 1998** - Charter for the Washington, DC Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc. approved.
- **June 25, 1998** - Senate Joint Resolution 41 was passed by the United States Senate
- **February 15, 1999** - A poster announcing the design competition is prepared and distributed internationally
- **December 2, 1999** - Approves the east end of Constitution Gardens and approves a four-acre site adjacent to the Tidal Basin along with the design parameters
- **December 1, 2005** - National Capital Planning Commission (NCPD) Unanimously Approves Preliminary Design for the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial.
- **November 13, 2006** - Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Ceremonial Groundbreaking

*The King Memorial site is a four-acre plot on the northeast corner of the Tidal Basin. The memorial is adjacent to the FDR Memorial and will be located between the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials. The Dedication of the Memorial is scheduled for 2008.*

[www.mlkmemorial.org](http://www.mlkmemorial.org)



13 November 2006  
Ceremonial Groundbreaking



"A day ON, not OFF."